

The House Committee on Economic Development and Tourism offers the following substitute to HR 430:

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the State of Georgia to promote tourism in Georgia by adding a website address to  
2 the top of its license plates and by listing Georgia's tourist destinations on the site; and for  
3 other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, from the quaint mountain towns of North Georgia and FDR's Little White  
5 House to the natural treasures of the Okefenokee Swamp and from the Golden Isles of coastal  
6 Georgia and the green parks and 18th and 19th century architecture of Savannah's historic  
7 downtown district to Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park and the Martin Luther King, Jr.,  
8 National Historic Site, Georgia is home to a wealth of exciting and attractive tourist  
9 destinations; and

10 WHEREAS, our modern and convenient convention centers and the splendor of our state  
11 parks attract leisure and business travelers alike; and

12 WHEREAS, tourism is Georgia's second largest industry behind agriculture, supporting \$6  
13 billion in resident wages and 209,500 tourist related jobs in 2003 as well as creating more  
14 than \$708.5 million in state tax revenue the same year; and

15 WHEREAS, given the significant role of tourism to its economy, the State of Georgia should  
16 do all it can to promote this booming industry; and

17 WHEREAS, updating a state website with the latest information about Georgia's many  
18 attractions and facilities would create a valuable resource for attracting tourists, conventions,  
19 and business travelers to the state by providing a central, online location dedicated to tourist  
20 information; and

21 WHEREAS, with Georgians traveling on more than 1,200 miles of interstate highways and  
22 18,000 miles of federal and state highways that connect cities in neighboring states of  
23 Alabama, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Tennessee to Georgia's communities

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1 and business centers, the state's license plate is a unique and valuable opportunity to promote  
2 Georgia's many outstanding tourist destinations.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
4 the members of this body urge that the State of Georgia place a website address at the top of  
5 its license plates and list Georgia's tourist destinations on the site as a means of boosting  
6 Georgia's important tourism industry.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
8 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to Governor Sonny Perdue, the  
9 commissioner of motor vehicle safety, and the commissioner of economic development.